

Priorities for Port's Prosperity

Life is busy and you probably don't always have the time to get caught up on what your local government is doing, so here for your convenience is a snapshot of the City's 2019 - 2023 Corporate Strategic Plan (the Plan) - the City's guiding document.

Comprised of five strategic priorities (see above), the Plan is gleaned from Council's continued mission to enhance the quality of life of residents and taxpayers by creating a vibrant waterfront community.

Under each of the five priorities are multiple goals that will help build a strong, successful Port Alberni. Several of the goals outlined in the Plan are:

- To build a community that is connected by safe, walkable, green streets and accessible multi-modal pathways;
- To grow the economy with an emphasis on small business;
- To ensure the highest and best use is made of City-owned assets;
- To renew City infrastructure in a sustainable and environmentally conscious manner; and
- To continue on a thoughtful and respectful journey of reconciliation with First Nations.

These goals, along with the 16 others contained in the Plan, will drive the City's work for the years ahead.

The plan, our path forward, looks to create accountability and transparency, align municipal work with municipal spending and build momentum within the community that results in tangible outcomes. These outcomes will be measured against 39 strategies listed in the Plan. A few strategic highlights include:

- Implementing a proactive tree planting program that will revitalize and green our city streets;
- Reducing the number of vacant commercial occupancies;
- Introducing new incentive programs that support small businesses;
- Developing a Strategic Asset Management Plan that ensures resiliency and reliability; and
- Acting on the Reconciliation Committee's 27 recommendations in a sustainable manner.

It is an incredibly exciting point in time for Port Alberni and we believe the next few years will be a transformational phase in our story. With that, we encourage you to get your hands on the new Corporate Strategic Plan (available online and at City facilities) and review the document in detail. This simple step will help you better understand how the City sets priorities, selects projects and allocates funds as we work to achieve our mission of creating a vibrant waterfront community.

portalberni.ca/corporate-strategic-plan

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BEARS CAN'T CHANGE, BUT WE CAN

Black bears are one of our most visible wildlife neighbours and are very active during the late summer and fall as they look for "easy" calories in preparation for winter. Carelessly stored garbage, bird feeders, pet foods and barbecues are open invitations for bears and often cause them to pay with their lives. While bears can't change their behaviour, we can.

The City has been promoting responsible household waste disposal for years; however, in recent weeks, the City moved from education to enforcement in an effort to create behaviour change, encourage compliance, protect residents from unnecessary risk and prevent bears from being needlessly destroyed.

The most common problem is garbage carts placed curb-side the night before collection day, which is prohibited in the bylaw. Please ensure your cart is readily accessible for emptying between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on your specific collection day.

The City also reminds residents to harvest fruit as soon as it ripens, feed your pets inside and store their food inside. Never store garbage outside, unless it has wildlife resistant hardware or is in a secured enclosure.

This fall, the City will continue educating citizens on responsible household waste disposal and the Bear Smart program by providing information via newsletters, ad placements, alerts and posting to social media.

THAT'S GARBAGE

Want to learn more about managing your garbage? Simply visit portalberni.ca and search "*Garbage*." While on the page, you can sign up for collection reminders and learn more about what it means to be Bear Smart.

Have questions? Call Public Works at 250-720-2840.

FOLLOW US!

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In 2018, the City of Port Alberni gained more than 600 new followers on Facebook and increased engagement across all social media platforms.

Help us expand our audience and get the information you need on the services we provide by following us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

DID YOU KNOW?

Under Traffic Control Bylaw #4670, no vehicle shall be parked on the street for the purpose of storage.

In the weeks ahead, City Bylaw will be launching an education campaign regarding the removal of boats, recreational vehicles, travel trailers, and utility trailers parked on city streets and boulevards. This campaign is part of an ongoing effort to reduce parking congestion, increase pedestrian safety, improve sightlines, and ensure efficiency of street sweeping, snow removal, and garbage collection services. For more information on this and other bylaw programs, visit portalberni.ca and search "*Bylaw*" or join us on our social media platforms.



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